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SENT DEPARTMENT 544, REPEATED INFORMATION HELSINKI 16.

For third consecutive day Soviet press attacked right-wing Social Democrats and leadership coalition parties of Finland for undermining "good neighbor relationship between Finland and Soviet Union based on Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance". IZVESTIA carried attack first November 1 in editorial "Secret machinations of enemies of Soviet-Finnish friendship" and then PRAVDA and IZVESTIA both published articles datelined Helsinki "Letter of the PDUF faction in the Finnish Sejm to Prime Minister Kekkonen".

These groups are accused of subverting Finnish interests for Western powers particularly United States. IZVESTIA specifically charges that these groups object to fact "that Finnish trade with Soviet Union has increased" during the last year and trying to prevent further increases in this trade.

Soviet attack probably matter tactics in current Soviet-Finnish trade talks. According to Finnish sources talks not progressing satisfactorily since Soviets have not made workable counter-proposals for maintaining Soviet-Finnish trade at present level and Finns appear prefer triangular trade arrangement involving one or more of the Western countries as means resolving situation. This possibly one reason Soviet press charges that Western powers are undermining Soviet-Finnish relations. In this connection, French Commercial Counselor who claims to be personal friend of Palmroth, Chief Finnish trade delegation, said latter while in Moscow studiously avoided any contact with either British or French officials to forestall possible charge that Western powers actively consulted during Moscow talks.

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